

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Division of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05402

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: Joan Mongeon and John Pandiani

DATE: July 21, 2006

RE: Employment of CMH Clients in 10 Northeastern States

This week's PIP report provides a comparison of employment rates for adult community mental health service recipients in 10 Northeastern states. This report was prepared in response to a request from Julie Tessler at the Vermont Council following our June 23 report on "Five Indicators of CRT Program Performance."¹

The information provided here, which was downloaded from the SAMHSA National Information Center website, is based on 2004 Center of Mental Health Services (CMHS) Uniform Reporting System (URS) tables submitted to CMHS by the states.² These tables provide employment rates for all individuals served by community mental health programs funded or operated by each state during 2004 in conjunction with a range of other indicators of service system performance. For this analysis, individuals reported as "not in the labor force" were considered to be not employed. Individuals for which no information was reported were excluded from the analysis.

As you will see, employment rates reported for community mental health recipients in the 10 northeastern states range from 10% to 68%. Five states reported employment rates of less than 25%, two states reported employment rates between 25% and 30%, and two states reported employment rates between 30 and 40%. Only one state reported an employment rate greater than 50%. The employment rate for CMHC service recipients in Vermont during 2004 was 37%.

One factor that should be considered in interpreting these employment rates (and is reported in the URS tables) is the representation of adults with serious mental illness (SMI) in the community mental health caseload. The representation of adults with serious mental illness among all adult service recipients varied among the states from 26% in Vermont to 100% in Massachusetts. In Vermont, the employment rate for adults with SMI is 26% while the employment rate for other mental health service recipients is 42%. If this pattern is reflected in other states, the proportional representation of SMI clients could have a substantial impact on the overall employment rate.

Another factor that should be considered is the amount of missing data regarding employment. Employment rates reported in URS tables describe more than 85% of all service recipients in three states, but represented less than 50% in two states. Employment rates for states with large amounts of missing data may be less representative of the population of service recipients as a whole.

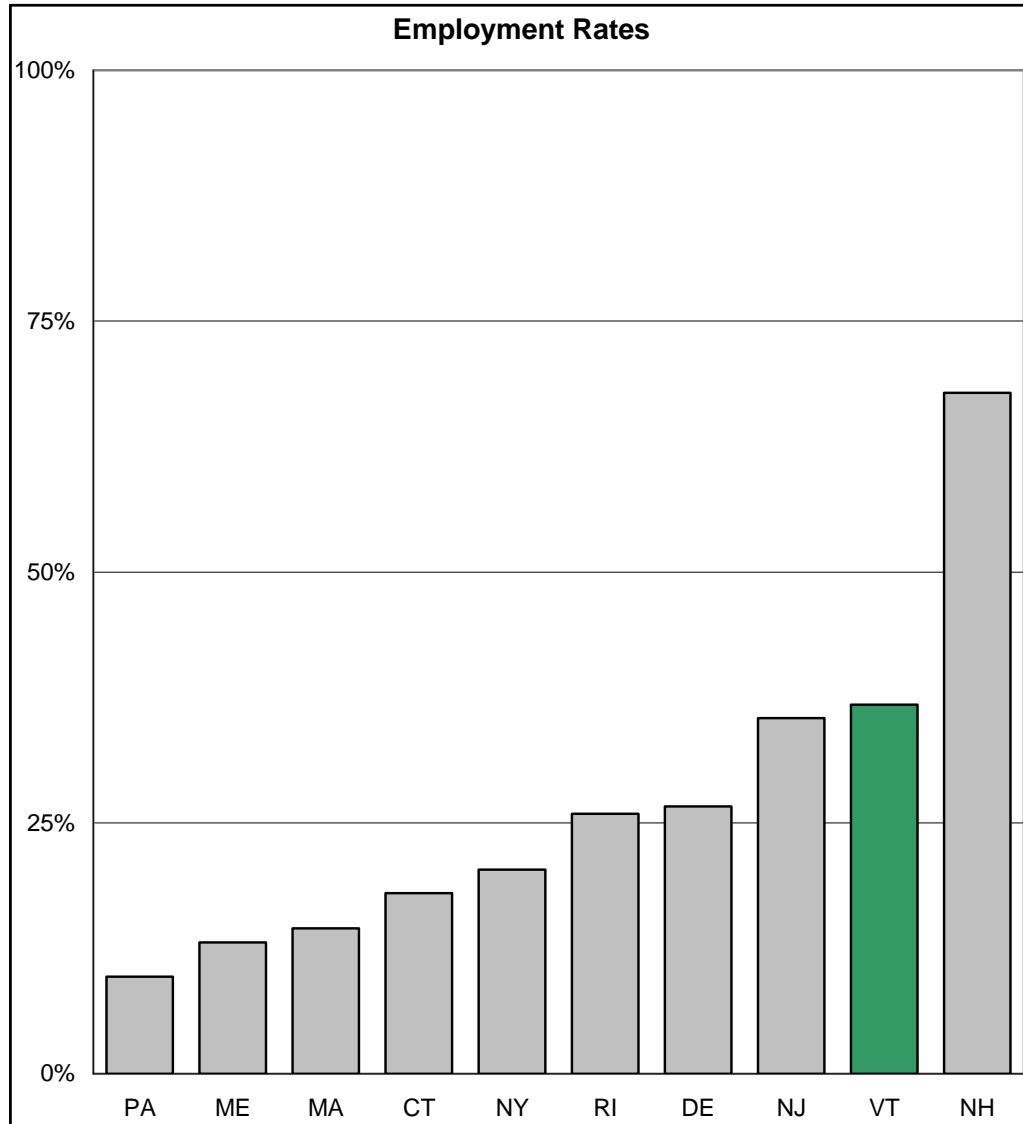
We look forward to your comments and your suggestions for further analyses of URS data at pip@vdh.state.vt.us or 802.863.7249.

References

¹ Five Indicators of CRT Program Performance PIP Report
<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/2006/pip062306.pdf>

² SAMHSA National Information Center
<http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/MentalHealthStatistics/URS2004.asp>

**Rates of Employment
For Community Mental Health Service Recipients
In 10 Northeastern States; FY2004**

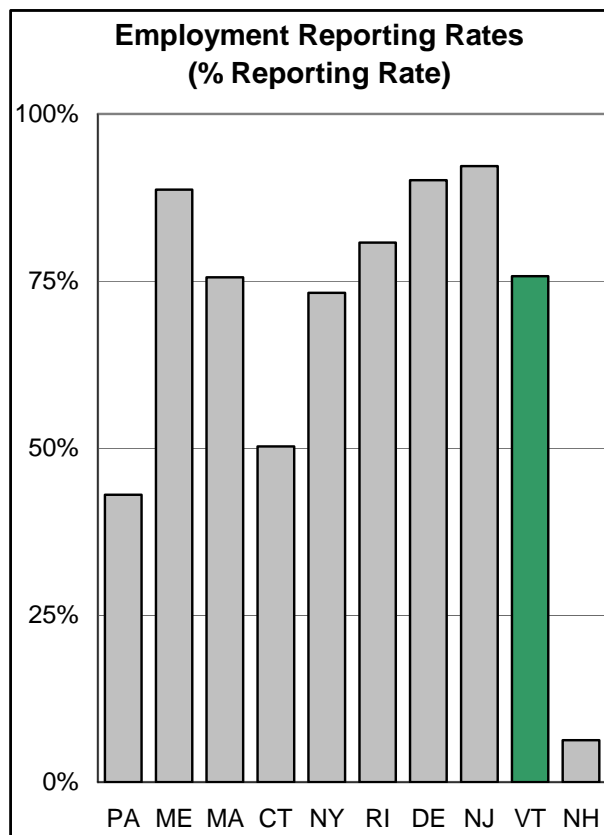
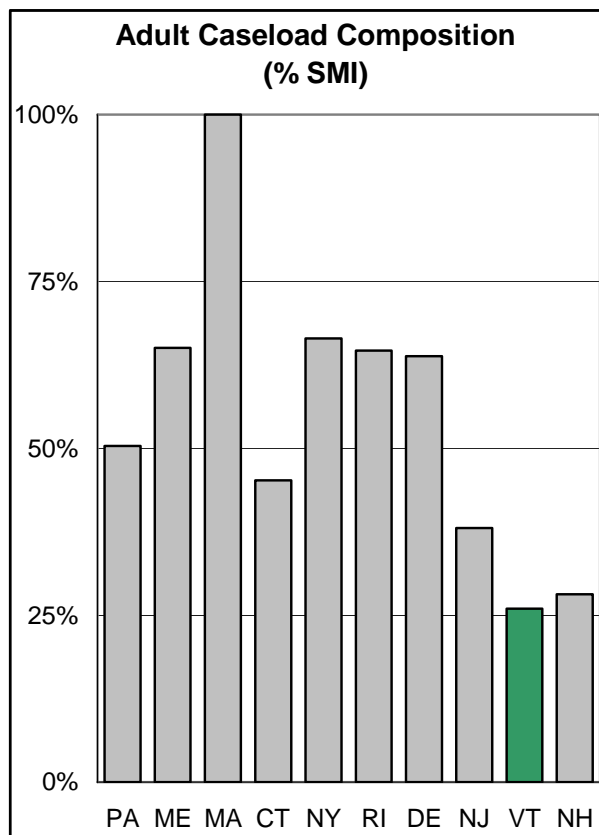


	PA	ME	MA	CT	NY	RI	DE	NJ	VT	NH
Total Reported	45,571	26,527	17,893	21,003	350,442	14,953	4,660	247,246	9,665	1,646
# Employed	4,411	3,474	2,594	3,776	71,246	3,875	1,241	87,612	3,554	1,117
% Employed	10%	13%	14%	18%	20%	26%	27%	35%	37%	68%

Information obtained from SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center Website:
<http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/MentalHealthStatistics/URS2004.asp>
 Employment data: Outcomes Domain: Table 1 2004 CMHS URS Output Table (URS Basic Table 4)

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
<http://healthvermont.gov/mh/docs/pips/pip-reports.aspx>

Caseload Composition and Employment Reporting Rates for 10 Northeastern States; FY2004



State	Total	SMI Clients		Employment Status Known	
	Clients Served	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
PA	105,906	53,358	50%	45,571	43%
ME	29,925	19,465	65%	26,527	89%
MA	23,685	23,685	100%	17,893	76%
CT	41,798	18,892	45%	21,003	50%
NY	478,554	318,098	66%	350,442	73%
RI	18,517	11,969	65%	14,953	81%
DE	5,172	3,301	64%	4,660	90%
NJ	268,162	102,046	38%	247,246	92%
VT	12,765	3,316	26%	9,665	76%
NH	26,353	7,414	28%	1,646	6%

Information obtained from SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center Website:
<http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/cmhs/MentalHealthStatistics/URS2004.asp>

Total clients served data: Access Domain Table 1 2004 CMHS URS Output table (URS Basic Table 2A)

Employment data: Outcomes Domain: Table 1 2004 CMHS URS Output Table (URS Basic Table 4)